

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (withdrawn) A method, comprising: assigning a monetary ticket a dollar amount with a playthrough requirement; crediting a machine game with credits equal to the dollar amount; and allowing a player to gamble with the credits.

Claim 15 (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14, further comprising: allowing the player to receive cash for the credits when the player has wagered a predetermined amount using the ticket.

Claim 16 (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the received cash comprises the dollar amount and any winnings.

Claim 17 (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the received cash comprises winnings from the dollar amount, but not including the dollar amount itself.

Claim 18 (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14, further comprising receiving a ticket out request and issuing a ticket with an updated playthrough requirement.

Claim 19. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 14, further comprising receiving a ticket out request and issuing a standard ticket after the player has met the playthrough requirement.

Claim 20 (currently amended) A method, comprising:

assigning to a first monetary ticket both a first ticket value and a predetermined modified payable and indicating on the monetary ticket that the monetary ticket triggers the predetermined modified payable;

receiving the first monetary ticket in a first gaming machine and crediting the first ticket value into the first gaming machine to create credited funds;

allowing a player to play a gambling game on the first gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the first gaming machine;

receiving a ticket out request on the first gaming machine;

issuing a second monetary ticket to the player and assigning both a second ticket value and the predetermined modified payable to the second monetary ticket, the second ticket value reflecting an amount of credits on the first gaming machine when the ticket out request was received, and indicating on the second monetary ticket that the second monetary ticket triggers the predetermined modified payable, ~~wherein the second monetary ticket invokes the predetermined modified payable when the player uses the second monetary ticket on a gaming device;~~

receiving the second monetary ticket in a second gaming machine and crediting the second ticket value into the second gaming machine to create second credited funds; and

allowing the player to play on the second gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the second credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the second gaming machine.

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the first gaming machine when the player loses all funds from the first monetary ticket on the first gaming machine.

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the second gaming machine when the player loses all funds from the second monetary ticket on the second gaming machine.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising restricting use of the first monetary ticket to a particular patron.

Claim 23 (withdrawn) A method, comprising: reading a monetary ticket associated with a gaming machine; associating the monetary ticket with a respective record; and triggering a special software routine on the gaming machine if the record indicates the ticket is for a special promotional mode.

Claims 24-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (withdrawn) A method comprising: downloading a downloadable software module to a slot machine; storing an identity of the downloadable software module; receiving a ticket; determining if the ticket has a special operation for a particular game; and performing the special operation if an identity of the downloadable software module is compatible with the particular game.

Claim 27 (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising: a host connected to a machine database storing a status of a plurality of gaming machines; and a gaming machine transmitting a ticket in request to the host, wherein the database updates a status of the gaming machine depending on a type of the ticket.

Claim 28 (withdrawn) A ticket redemption apparatus, comprising: a ticket reader reading a ticket; a rules locator locating the ticket's respective rules in a respective record in a database; a determining unit determining if the ticket has met proper conditions for cashout; and a rejection unit, if the ticket has not met the proper conditions for cashout, rejecting the ticket for cashout and returning the ticket to a player.

Claim 29-52 (canceled)

Claim 53 (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising:
inserting, by the player, cash into the gaming machine;

determining, by the gaming machine, that the gaming machine is using the predetermined modified payable and preventing the cash from being wagered using the predetermined modified payable.

Claim 54 (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 53, wherein the preventing comprises rejecting the cash by returning the cash to the player.

Claim 55 (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

an assigning unit assigning to a first monetary ticket both a first ticket value and a predetermined modified payable and indicating on the monetary ticket that the monetary ticket triggers the predetermined modified payable;

a first gaming machine performing:

receiving the first monetary ticket and crediting the first ticket value into the first gaming machine to create credited funds;

allowing a player to play a gambling game on the first gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the first gaming machine,

receiving a ticket out request on the first gaming machine; and

issuing a second monetary ticket to the player and assigning both a second ticket value and the predetermined modified payable to the second monetary ticket, the second ticket value reflecting an amount of credits on the first gaming machine when the ticket out request was received, wherein the second monetary ticket invokes the predetermined modified payable when the player uses the second monetary ticket on a gaming device; and

a second gaming machine performing:

receiving the second monetary ticket and crediting the second ticket value into the second gaming machine to create second credited funds; and

allowing the player to gamble on the second gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the second credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the second gaming machine,

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the first gaming machine when the player loses all funds from the first monetary ticket on the first gaming machine,

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the second gaming machine when the player loses all funds from the second monetary ticket on the second gaming machine.

Claim 56 (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 55, wherein use of the first monetary ticket is restricted to a particular patron.

Claims 57-58 (canceled)

Claim 59 (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 55, wherein predetermined the modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the gaming machine after a predetermined amount is played by the player.

Claim 60 (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 55, wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the gaming machine after a predetermined amount of time has elapsed.

Claim 61 (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 55, wherein the gaming machine comprises:

a rejection unit, upon insertion of cash by the player in the gaming machine, determines that the gaming machine is using the predetermined modified payable and prevents the cash from being wagered using the predetermined modified payable.

Claim 62 (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 61, wherein the preventing comprises rejecting the cash by returning the cash to the player.

Claim 63 (new) A method, comprising:

assigning to a first monetary ticket both a first ticket value and a predetermined modified payable and indicating on the monetary ticket that the monetary ticket triggers the predetermined modified payable;

receiving the first monetary ticket in a first gaming machine and crediting the first ticket value into the first gaming machine to create credited funds;

allowing a player to play a gambling game on the first gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the first gaming machine;

receiving a ticket out request on the first gaming machine;

issuing a second monetary ticket to the player and assigning both a second ticket value and the predetermined modified payable to the second monetary ticket, the second ticket value reflecting an amount of credits on the first gaming machine when the ticket out request was received, and indicating on the second monetary ticket that the second monetary ticket triggers the predetermined modified payable;

receiving the second monetary ticket in a second gaming machine and crediting the second ticket value into the second gaming machine to create second credited funds; and

allowing the player to play on the second gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the second credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the second gaming machine,

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the first gaming machine when the player has wagered a predetermined amount of bets on the first gaming machine.

Claim 64 (new) An apparatus, comprising:

an assigning unit assigning to a first monetary ticket both a first ticket value and a predetermined modified payable;

a first gaming machine performing:

receiving the first monetary ticket and crediting the first ticket value into the first gaming machine to create credited funds;

allowing a player to play a gambling game on the first gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the first gaming machine,

receiving a ticket out request on the first gaming machine;

issuing a second monetary ticket to the player and assigning both a second ticket value and the predetermined modified payable to the second monetary ticket, the second ticket value reflecting an amount of credits on the first gaming machine when the ticket out request was received; and

a second gaming machine performing:

receiving the second monetary ticket and crediting the second ticket value into the second gaming machine to create second credited funds; and

allowing the player to gamble on the second gaming machine using the predetermined modified payable using the second credited funds, the predetermined modified payable being different from a default payable on the second gaming machine,

wherein the predetermined modified payable becomes unavailable to the player on the first gaming machine when the player has wagered a predetermined amount of bets on the first gaming machine.